

Personal Notification of Availability

AHRQ offers Internet users the opportunity to sign up for personal notification of the availability of the AHRQ Quality Indicators. All you need is a computer, Internet access, and an E-mail address. It works just like other electronic distribution lists. This service is free.

To register, follow these easy steps:

1. Send an E-mail message to:
listserv@qualityindicators.ahrq.gov
2. On the subject line, type: Subscribe.
(For example: Subscribe)
3. In the body of the message type:
sub Quality_Indicators-L and then
your full name. (For example:
sub Quality_Indicators-L John Doe)

You will receive a message confirming that you are signed up.

References

Development of the Next Generation of HCUP Quality Indicators. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2001.
www.ahrq.gov/data/hcup/qinext.htm

Refinement of the HCUP Quality Indicators. EPC Technical Review, AHRQ Pub. No. 01-0035. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2001.
www.ahrq.gov/clinic/evrptfiles.htm

AHRQ Pub. No. 02-M004
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www.ahrq.gov

**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Public Health Service
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
2101 East Jefferson Street, Suite 501
Rockville, MD 20852

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

AHRQ Quality Indicators

Prevention Quality Indicators

*A new tool to help assess quality and
access to health care in the community*



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Permit No. G-282



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

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Prevention Quality Indicators—

- Can be used as a “screening tool” to help flag potential health care quality problem areas that need further investigation.
- Can provide a quick check on primary care access or outpatient services in a community by using patient data found in a typical hospital discharge abstract.
- Can help public health agencies, State data organizations, health care systems, and others interested in improving health care quality in their communities.
- Are population based and adjusted for age and sex.
- Are publicly available without cost.
- Can be readily downloaded from AHRQ’s Web site at www.ahrq.gov/data/hcup/prevqi.htm.

The *Prevention Quality Indicators* are part of a set of new **AHRQ Quality Indicators (QIs)** developed by Stanford University under a contract with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The AHRQ QIs expand the original HCUP Quality Indicators—a set of measures originally developed from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP). The HCUP QIs were a starting point for hospitals and health care systems to begin quality assessments using hospital discharge data.

The Prevention Quality Indicators represent hospital admission rates for the following ambulatory care sensitive conditions:

- Bacterial pneumonia
- Dehydration
- Pediatric gastroenteritis
- Urinary infections
- Perforated appendicitis
- Low birth weight
- Angina without an in-hospital procedure
- Congestive heart failure
- Hypertension
- Adult asthma
- Pediatric asthma
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Uncontrolled diabetes
- Diabetes, short-term complications
- Diabetes, long-term complications
- Lower extremity amputations among patients with diabetes

With high-quality, community-based primary care, hospitalization for these illnesses often can be avoided.

Upcoming AHRQ QI Software

Inpatient Quality Indicators—A set of 29 provider- and area-level indicators relating to utilization, mortality, and volume. Provider-level indicators include in-hospital procedures for which outcomes can vary from hospital to hospital; area-level indicators include procedures for which inpatient utilization rates have been shown to vary by metropolitan statistical area.

Patient Safety Indicators—A set of indicators providing information on potential in-hospital complications and patient safety concerns following surgeries, other procedures, and childbirth.

See the AHRQ Web site for announcement of availability of future AHRQ QI software or sign up for personal notification by E-mail (see “Personal Notification of Availability”).

Additional Information for Users

A detailed users’ guide to the Prevention Quality Indicators and complete documentation for the software are available on the AHRQ Web site. Users may access these files in word processing or portable document format.

